



Explorer™ EW Seminar

Do exoplanet observations and learn photometry. In this seminar, you will learn how to observe and measure exoplanets, drill down into astro databases, reduce data to submit observations to the JPL/NASA Exoplanet Watch program, do your own observation, analyze and present your results. Boyce-Astro will lead you through your project and provide the telescope time for the seminar and for your own exoplanet observations projects. You will be prepared for exoplanet discovery and variable star photometry.

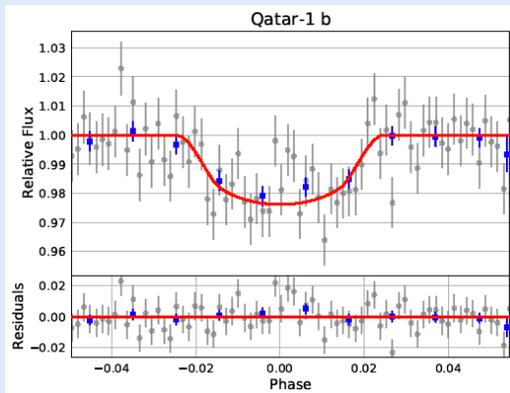


SPRING 2026 EXPLORATION™ for the EXOPLANET WATCH PROGRAM

MODULE	TOPICS	ASSIGNMENT FOR NEXT CLASS	DATE
0	Seminar Orientation and Photometry Overview Transit method, Exoplanet Watch and EXOTIC	Intro to photometry and exoplanets; do a sample exoplanet transit, set up your communications and accounts	3/19/2026
1	Variable stars, exoplanets, NASA and other programs How to submit your results to AAVSO and NASA/JPL	Videos about photometry and variable stars; Get Observer Code Receive an unreported observation file and reduce it using EXOTIC	3/26/2026
2	Factors to consider in exoplanet target selection How to consider your equipment for observations	Identify your target exoplanet; develop your observation parameters Submit your EXOTIC results to AAVSO / JPL	4/9/2026
3	Using NINA for your observations How to set up your own exoplanet observation	Complete NINA scripts for your target Participate in an observation as weather and your time allow	4/16/2026
4	Aperture and differential photometry process Exoplanet databases	Do your own observation request to BARO, or BARON observatories Complete the exoplanet parameters for your observed exoplanet	4/23/2026
5	Discuss your observation results Interpreting all the EXOTIC results	Finish your BARO / BARON observation data reduction Submit your observation to AAVSO/JPL	4/30/2026
6	What observations mean, exoplanet parameters Using NINA for observations with your equipment	Quiz on observing time series photometry and exoplanets	5/7/2026
7	Present your results compared to priors More exoplanet parameters	Compare your observations to the prior results Prepare your presentation on your selected exoplanet and star	5/14/2026
8	Present how it would be to be on your exoplanet Research opportunities	Future Opportunities with Boyce-Astro	5/28/2026

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE DATE INDICATED AT 7:00 TO 8:00 PM PACIFIC TIME ON ZOOM 435 909 0389

Prerequisites: IntroSTARS™ is our self-paced online introductory course in stellar astrophysics. It takes 5 to 10 hours to complete depending on your current experience and knowledge. Students must have completed IntroSTARS™ and its final Quiz before taking this course. **Sign up on the Wait List below and then go to <http://boyce-astro.org/introstars-your-step-1/> to sign up to do IntroSTARS on your own schedule.**



There is \$49 fee due after Module 1. Class size is limited. Preference will be given to other Boyce-Astro students and new high school and college students

To be invited to our first Zoom Meeting, please complete your Application here.

[Click Here](#)

To learn more about Boyce-Astro, go to

www.boyce-astro.org